

**James Hill to George Washington, February 5, 1773,  
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.  
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**FROM MR. JAMES HILL.**

YORKE COUNTY the 5th Feby. 1773

SIR/

I recd your letters in the office the 30th. of Jany. one dated ye 21st Decr. & the other Jany 11 which I understood had been in ye Office for upwards of Eight or 10 Days as I did not Expect a letter from you till ye meetg of ye Mercts. made no inquiry & was up at ye Quarters in ye time however there was nothing very matererall in them only yr. Directions to Mr. Everand which I went to immediately & delivered & his answer was that ye Patents has been made out ever since the 15th of Decr. to ye Best of Memory [mutilated] to ye Mill Stones we have no great deal of Custom in wheat [mutilated] have contrived to fix them so as to grind what wheat has Come without complaint as yet, tho they are but sorry & hope to make them to till we take her up to rebuild which will be the first dry Spell yt comes for I have been geting in readiness to rebuild her Every oppertunity the Carpenters er had since you was down I have had all ye frameing got ready in case She Brakes or dry Spell for we have a very good run of Custom in corne provided of our mill did not waist her water in ye manner She does, We could make a good deal of corne in a year by her but she waists near as much water as she Treads with—I have Attended this Meetg of Mercts. in order to receive the money for yr. corne & part of the Estates money for corne at ye same time yt. was Sold; but did not receive one farthing for there was so much bad money of ye. new koin yt. I coud not receive it with Safety therefore woud not receive any for they woud not

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agree if it was bad to take it again therefore made the man underwrite his note of Hand to pay intrest till Apl.—I have Sold the Porke for 27/6 Wt. but have not recd the money for it yet Mrs. Dandridge has had of yrs. 10 Hogs Gross 1536. to Mr Jo Fox 1098lb Wt. at what I sold owes below at wch is 27/6 wt. & Mr. Thos. Averse 337 Wt. at same & 7 of ye indifferentest the overseer had & what they weigh over 600 Wt. he is to pay for & two has been catched out of ye Marsh Since a sow & a Barrow & the Sow has Piggd since She has been put up to fatten that I dont Suppose we Shall make Sail of her this year I have had 14 Muttons & two Beeves of yrs. Brot. from ye. Quarter to make Sail of to this Meetg but have sold but 6 mutns. @ 6d perr. & one beef almost @ 4d ye others Still remain here unsold as they broke up so soon could not get cent for ym. therefore keep an acct. of what Hominy they Eat & charge you with it if its agreeable it should be so done please to let me know when when you write again—whether they shoud be Kept for the Next Market in Apl. or whether you woud have them sent back the young man Livg. with me when you was down left me Just before Christmas So yt. I was obliged to Stay at home abt. the time of Negroes Hireing that I had not time to look out for any for ditchers & one of the two that I Kept to ditchg is run away & has been for Some time so that I have only one at it; whch makes us go on but very Slow with our Ditchg. the fellow that is run away is namd Coachman Jamey which is one of the Greatest Raschals I ever lookd after in all my life he went of without an angry word or a blow from any one, which woud Recommend it to Mr. Custis & you to part with him in ye same Manner you did the other for there is no getg. of him to do any thing more then he Pleases & he only corrupts the Rest & if you dont conclude to Sell him am determined to send him to the Easten Shore that he never Shall Strike a Stroke this side while I stay in the Estate & if he runs away there will have a pr. Iron Spancels for him if agreeable to you for its of no Use to put them on Here for the negro Blacksmiths in town will soon file them off wch he will not have the Same oppertunity on ye Easten Shore & will have one Brot. over in his Sted if agreeable to you & Mr. Custis I cant write you any thing relative to ye Quantity of Corne made at your Place for am Just agoing to have it measured but in Hopes it will turn out very well for there appears to be a large Bulk of it I intended to ahad it measured When I was in New Kent But was obliged down

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with the Expectation of receiveing the money for ye Corne sold at Norfolk—the inclosed is Wts. & numbers of the Tobo. Shipd last year they all went on board of one Ship wch was to Cary & Co. & one Hhd of Hanover Tobo. for the Rent of that Place wch Weighd 1010 Wt. to ye. Best of Memory—tho by what I can learn am in Hopes of seeing you down very shortly for it is Expected the Assembly will be Calld together on Acct. of this Counterfit money<sup>1</sup>—I had one five pound Bill & had Just Paid it away before they were found to be bad & did agree that if it was bad I would take it again it has not come back yet So by that I am in Hopes its good or it woud abeen returned before this & think my Self very Lucky that I had made no better a Collection then I have for 2 thirds of the money is Counterfit now Circulating that I dont know well what to do in receiveg. Unless its gold & Silver & a good deal of that is bad of Dollars yt. I dont know well what to do that if I have any in the House that is bad or shoud receive any bad hope you wont think of Makeing me Stand to ye loss of it as I shall do for ye best haveing nothing more at this time to add that I can recolect only am at this time have a very bad cold & pain in the Head & Remain yr. Mo. Obet. & Humble Servt.

JAMES HILL—

<sup>1</sup> For Act of Assembly passed in March, 1773, in regard to the counterfeiting of paper money, see Hening, vol. viii. p. 651.